BOARD OF REGENTS

AGENDA

9-11 June 2026 | Kosrae State

Zoom link:
https://comfsm.zoom.us/j/3061339702?pwd=dnM3UmJKWW83V0JFdjhCNDNMbmVsUT09&omn=93048926703
Meeting ID: 306 133 9702
Passcode: 133187

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1. Call to Order: Meeting called to order by the Chair at 1230
2. Opening Prayer: VPIA Delihna Ehmes
3. Reading of the Mission Statement: SBA President
4. Roll Call; Declaration of Quorum: Called by Sec/Treas Mitagyow – Quorum met
5. Approval of Minutes: Defer to tomorrow's calendar.

   a. **7-9 April 2026**

6. Communications from the Office of the President (OTP)
   a. **15 April**: Meeting with Mr. Ishizaki Takahiro
   b. **22 April**: REL Pacific Governing Board Virtual Meeting
   c. **27 April**: Meeting with Japanese Ambassador H.E. Kagomiya Nobuo
   d. **6 May**: Meeting with FSM DOE Secretary, the Hon. Gardenia Aisek and Atty. Marstella Jack
   e. **12-13 May**: Presentation & Faculty Workshop with Dr. Lee Ullmann
   f. **13 May**: Meeting with FSM DOE Secretary, the Hon. Gardenia Aisek and Team
   g. **14 May**: Meeting with Pohnpei Chamber of Commerce and Dr. Lee Ullmann
   h. **22 May**: COM-FSM and FSM-FMI Campus Commencement Exercises

7. Regents Reports
   a. **Chair, FSM National Government**: The Chair reported that she visited the national government departments to get information for her report. However, she regrets to inform the Board that she was unsuccessful. She proceeded to report on Congress - $5million to help with the fuel crisis, as passed by Congress. The emergency declaration has been extended to the end of FY. Renamed External Affairs to Foreign Affairs (in line with UN). New secretaries in the FSM President's cabinet: DECCEM – Florian Yatilman; DoFA – Ricky Cantero. Special Session (Congress) 1-10 July.
   b. **Vice-Chair, Kosrae State**: The V-Chair reported on the same projects; water and electricity are still major challenges. First time to participate in the graduation ceremony – he was impressed by the event, the number of graduates and their achievements.
   c. **Secretary & Treas., Yap State**: Yap Regent reported on Onjong Java Plateau (ONJ), a program that was under R&D which has been reactivated and has started its orientation this week. Rumors and evidence of work on the bridge (connecting bridge from the lagoon) stopped in February of this year. The Chinese workers left and have not picked up yet. The bridge, according to the Regent, was funded by ADB. One of the rumored reasons for the halt was the work has become too costly.
   d. **Regent, Pohnpei State**: Apologies.
   e. **Regent, Chuuk State**: Chuuk Regent reported on the initial request for support for Sinlaku recovery ($4million). There was a joint assessment conducted by the Chuuk Disaster Office, FEMA

and other outside groups. The assessment was $90 million. One of the most crucial areas in need of immediate repair was the port. There was an initial effort from the Chuuk Campus and VPIS to meet with the Governor seeking assistance with the damage incurred by the campus from Typhoon Sinlaku. As of now, $200,000 has been entered into the supplemental budget ready to be lobbied for with the CSL. Chief Executive Council Meeting (State governors and FSM President) will be hosted by Chuuk. The IMF is scheduled for July. WB road work groundbreaking in August (West Pou Road). Goodwill games scheduled for September this year (island youth). The hospital construction hit a bit of a wall last year but seems like it is proceeding accordingly. Hemodialysis might become available in August as well.

8. President's Report
   a. **President**: This President's Report covers a busy period of budget advocacy and institutional transformation. At the May 14 Education Committee hearing, the College's FY2027 budget request of $17.16 million was presented, noting that requested budgets have grown 28% over four years while actual budgets have grown only 17%, forcing the Senior Leadership Team to keep finding ways to "do more with less." President Koroivulaono also proposed a government wage-matching incentive to help retain graduates locally. A major theme was educational transformation: Dr. Lee Ullmann of American University met with faculty, the National Department of Education, and the Pohnpei Chamber of Commerce to explore reframing students as "customers," rethinking learning outcomes, and preparing for AI's impact on teaching and assessment, sparking workshops and cross-campus discussions on curriculum, workforce alignment, and private-sector partnerships. The report also details several active initiatives: the EU-funded "Modernizing Teachers' and Students' Trainings" project (2026–2028) targeting green/blue career training; a $100,000 Land Grant award funding new Drone Pilot and FSMTC Technician training programs launching summer 2026; and continued rollout of the College's new Performance Management System, with staff vacancies (132 total since FY2023, mostly non-faculty) reported as improving. Finally, the Institutional Advancement & External Affairs office highlighted endowment fundraising challenges — including declining donor contributions and high graduate emigration, but noted a successful $79,000 campus fundraising campaign and ongoing efforts to secure a $50,000 government contribution toward the $20 million endowment goal, which the College argues would generate $1M annually to support vocational and workforce programs.

   b. **Vice President for Innovation & Sustainability (VPIS)**: This report covers the Administrative Services Department (under the Vice President for Innovation and Sustainability) for April–June 2026. Major accomplishments include emergency recovery work at Chuuk Campus following typhoon damage (Buildings H and I repairs), a generator preventive maintenance program launched with contractor Vital at National Campus, and a water conservation initiative that cut National Campus monthly water costs from about $6,000 to $2,000—roughly a 67% reduction. The Department also supported the transition into the new Student Services Center, acquired a new institutional vehicle, and continued implementing the Board-approved Fuel Supply Response Plan, with total fuel expenditures across all campuses reaching $16,114 between March and May 2026.

      The report flags two high-risk areas: limited infrastructure funding (after FY2026 allocations were redirected, alternative funding is being pursued) and critical staffing vacancies, including a Procurement Technician, Journey Electrician, and Preventative Maintenance Program Manager, among 12 unfilled positions overall. Moderate risks include generator reliability, an aging vehicle fleet, and outstanding vendor recovery issues. Looking ahead, priorities for the next quarter include completing the College-wide physical inventory, finalizing insurance coverage for new facilities, expanding preventative maintenance programs, advancing the 2026–2028 Facilities Plan, and continuing recruitment for the vacant critical positions.

i. **Comptroller's Financial Status Report**: in relation to the budget, the College's approved FY2026 budget is $12.6 million (against a $16.6 million request), with $7.14 million in actual and encumbered expenses recorded so far a 57% spend rate against the approved budget, or 43% against the original request. The National Campus accounts for the largest share of spending ($4.57 million), while all campuses are tracking between 39–49% of their individual budget balances used. Investment holdings remain strong: the Cash Reserves Fund stood at $3.07 million (up $49,291 unrealized gain for FY2026), the Endowment Fund at $15.32 million (up $849,007), and the combined Total Investment Fund at $18.39 million, reflecting an overall unrealized gain of $898,298 for the fiscal year. On compliance and operations, the FY2025 audit remains ongoing and is expected to be completed by 30 June 2026. The Business Office flagged a staffing shortfall (four special contracts, three of them students) as an ongoing challenge, while continuing to advance two modernization projects: a Digital Timekeeping grant and the cloud migration of the College's MIP Accounting System.

ii. **Raymond & James Investment Report**: As of 30 June 2026, the College's Endowment Fund was valued at approximately $15.19 million. It earned 7.72% during the quarter and 8.72% for the fiscal year to date, while its long-term average annual return since 1998 remains strong at 7.49%, exceeding its long-term target of 6.35%. The College's Reserves Fund was valued at approximately $3.11 million and earned 3.33% during the quarter and 5.51% over the past year. Together, the two funds total nearly $18.3 million, remain diversified, and are invested within the College's approved ranges to support long-term financial stability.

iii. **Cooperative Research and Extension Report**: This report highlights extensive community-based agricultural and health programming across the FSM. The Crop Extension Program trained 148 participants in growing techniques and organic fertilizer trials, while the Poultry Extension Program distributed 111 chicks under a Green Climate Fund project and introduced poultry curricula into elementary schools. The Swine Extension Program trained over 136 farmers in husbandry and disease prevention, and the Aquaculture Extension Program reached 248 marine producers through hatchery workshops and giant clam monitoring. Several programs also generated direct household income — for example, one grower earned $1,835.50 selling Chinese cabbage, and another earned $438.80 from poultry sales — showing tangible economic impact alongside the training. The report also covers a strong public health and youth focus: the Youth Extension Program installed water filtration in 8 schools serving up to 2,500 students, trained OSHA-certified technical students, and paired elders with youth to preserve traditional skills like weaving and food pounding. The EFNEP and Food/Waterborne Extension programs reached nearly 900 combined participants with nutrition and sanitation education, including a 100% post-test success rate in food-handling training. On the research side, aquaculture research secured a 10-year hatchery land lease at Lelu Marine Park and advanced sea cucumber, crab, and oyster breeding programs, while agriculture research tested climate-resilient coconut varieties and improved citrus and dragon fruit cultivation techniques — all aimed at strengthening local food security and farmer incomes across the region.

c. **Vice President for Enrollment Management and Student Services (VPEMSS)**: This EMSS (Enrollment Management & Student Services) report highlights strong academic momentum: the College conferred 179 credentials across three commencement ceremonies in May 2026, including a Summa Cum Laude graduate and five valedictorians. Academic standing also improved notably in Spring 2026, with 86.3% of the 1,440 enrolled students in good standing, up from 82.1% the prior year. The Financial Aid Office disbursed nearly $4 million in Pell Grants to 1,160 students (92% of those eligible), alongside Federal Work-Study and FSEOG funds and $48,800 in scholarships. Summer 2026 early registration reached 423 students (34% of the 1,250 target), with Yap and National Campus leading in early enrollment relative to their goals. The Spring 2026 Placement Test also drove admissions offers to 889 seniors and other students, with 62% qualifying for Degree or ACE pathways. Beyond enrollment metrics, the report showcases robust student support services: Counseling Services ran mental health training, peer support programs, and scholarship/career workshops, while Tutoring Services reported strong outcomes (77% of tutored students passing courses at the National Campus, 70% at Chuuk). Health Services logged 313 student and staff visits, mostly for preventive care and family planning. Workforce-development partnerships also featured prominently, including the Penn Foster Dental Assistant Training Program (its first cohort recognized at commencement), the CANOE health-career summer academy, and a new Rotary International "ROOTS" grant supporting nursing and clinical training. Finally, EMSS achieved 100% staff completion of GLBA data-security compliance training, reinforcing the department's commitment to protecting student financial information.

i. Student Body Association (SBA) President/Representative

d. Vice President for Instructional Affairs (VPIA): This report highlights workforce development and program quality initiatives. A standout achievement was the graduation of eight PUC apprenticeship trainees who earned dual credentials—a CTEC Certificate of Achievement in Construction Electricity alongside a U.S. Department of Labor Journeyman Certificate—after 8,000 hours of supervised training. The College's 21st Century Curriculum Project also released Phase 2 survey results from 462 students, 78 faculty, and 78 alumni, showing strong satisfaction (88%) and career-readiness confidence (87%), though it flagged challenges including Curriculum Committee reviews averaging 596 days, outdated textbooks, and requests for more interactive digital learning options. Meanwhile, Summer 2026 course enrollment data revealed concerning under-enrollment across campuses, with Chuuk Campus's fill rate at just 6% and National Campus at 32%. The Learning Resource Center made progress recovering 171 of 654 items missing from a February inventory, received facility upgrades at the National Campus library, and strengthened regional library partnerships through PIALA and LAMP engagement. On professional development, the College completed a four-module Stackable Credentials faculty training (completion rates ranging from 70–100%) that was well-received, alongside nursing faculty participation in a regional Nursing and Midwifery Strategic Planning Workshop for 2026–2030. Finally, the report showcased several external partnerships: a U.S. Air Force maternal/child health simulation training for nursing students, discussions with the Korea Institute of Ocean Science & Technology on marine science pathways, participation in a UNESCO-led Pacific life-skills conference (PETALS), and a new collaboration with Yap State Department of Health Services to expand healthcare workforce training, including a Preceptor Training Workshop that awarded 20 continuing education hours to eight participants.

General Session Day 2: commenced at 0830. Opened by the Chair; prayer led by Dean Phyllis. The chair modified the agenda by asking IVPIEQA to present with IA presenting last.

e. **Vice President for Institutional Effectiveness and Quality Assurance (VPIEQA)**: This report covers four sub-offices. The Information Technology Office reported a major milestone: completion of server modernization across all campuses (including replacing 13-year-old legacy servers at Yap with new gateway, WiFi management, and Starlink connectivity), plus a full migration to MIP Cloud for administrative systems. The IT team also deployed COM-FSM's own AI system integrated with Moodle, piloted AI-assisted feedback on student assessments, launched trial online pay voucher and leave application systems, and continued work integrating FMI into the College's Student Information System, alongside ongoing cybersecurity and disaster-recovery improvements. The Office of Institutional Effectiveness (OIE) continued supporting data requests and Power BI dashboard development, including specialized reports to help leadership respond to the Chuuk typhoon, and made progress on a KPI Monitoring Dashboard now covering 12 of the College's 27 institutional KPIs. The Workforce Development Office ran several trainings, including a communication/teamwork and critical thinking series reaching 47 participants, and a Mental Health Awareness & Suicide Prevention training reaching 63 students across Yap and FMI campuses while also supporting focus groups for the College's Workforce Assessment Needs Project across Pohnpei and Kosrae. Finally, the Communications & Media Office highlighted its ongoing publications (Kamorale Sharks Newsletter, Kaselehlie Press) and a notable ***#ChuukStrong*** social media campaign responding to Typhoon Sinlaku that reached nearly 50,000 views and 5,000 engagements on Facebook. The office also proposed two future branding initiatives for Board consideration: a college-wide faculty/staff uniform inspired by Micronesian design elements, and an Alumni ID program that would channel membership fees into the Endowment Fund while re-engaging graduates with campus life.

9. Old Business

a. Review of **Chapter 6 (Human Resources) Policies**

i. **Board Policy No. 6037** – Compassionate Support
Notes: Deferred to the next Board meeting due to cultural perspectives regarding who is a "relative", hence eligible for the support; as well as the financial implications it will have on the College.

10. New Business

a. Review of **Chapter 1 (Board of Regents) Policies**

i. **Board Policy No. 1312** – Quorum for Transaction of Business
ii. **Board Policy No. 1313** – Meeting Minutes
iii. **Board Policy No. 1320** – Attendance and Vacancies

Notes: (Presented by VP Joey.) BP No. 1312 – took reference of the 2025 BOR Bylaws and provisions of PL 7-79 recommending editorial corrections, i.e. "board" and "college" as proper nouns, therefore will now be changed to "Board" and "College". The other change is item "c" to align with the 2025 BOR Bylaws and to strengthen "a" and "b". V-Chair Steven moved to adopt. Regent Roger seconded. **PASSED**.
BP No. 1313 – took reference of both the BOR Bylaws and PL 7-79 updating reference lines and to standardize use of terminologies and capitalizing pronouns, i.e. "Board", "College", "Executive Officer" and gender-neutral titles, esp. "Chairperson". Pertaining to availing (20 calendar days

from the conclusion of the Board meeting) the meeting minutes, it is not stated in the BOR Bylaws, but it is referenced in PL 7-79. Chair informed the Board to defer the proposal of amending the Bylaws to the Executive Session. V-Chair Steven moved to adopt. Seconded by Regent Roger. **PASSED**.
BP No. 1320 – updated the reference of the policy aligning it to the 2025 Bylaws and PL 7-79. Simple formatting modification for easy reading. The language of the policy as presented is relevant to the documents. V-Chair moved to adopt. Seconded by Regent Roger. **PASSED**.

b. Review of **Chapter 3 (Instructional Affairs) Policies**
   i. **Board Policy No. 3001** – Catalog Limitations
   ii. **Board Policy No. 3002** – Academic Year
   iii. **Board Policy No. 3003** – Summer Session

   Note: BP No. 3001 – current language completely struck out with a newly proposed language to match higher education language. This intention is to protect the College's integrity, as well as the student's right. The other change is the name of the policy from "Catalog Limitations" to "Catalog Rights". Regent Roger moved to adopt. V-Chair Steven seconded. **PASSED**.
   BP No. 3002 – **PASSED**.
   BP No. 3003 – current language completely struck out for clarity and comprehension and to clearly explain how the College defines a summer session. **PASSED**.

c. Review of **Chapter 4 (Student Services) Policies**
   i. **Board Policy No. 4407** – Change of Major and/or IDP
   ii. **Board Policy No. 4502** – Final Grades
   iii. **Board Policy No. 4707** – Satisfactory Academic Progress
   iv. **Board Policy No. 4708** – Appeal of Financial Aid Suspension

   Notes: BP No. 4407 – propose to expand the language of the policy to include Change of Individual Review Plan (IDP). V-Chair moved to adopt. Seconded by Regent Roger. **PASSED**.
   BP No. 4502 – Amendment made to clarify the time frame around when final grades will be available to students. V-Chair moved to adopt. Seconded by Regent Roger. **PASSED**.
   BP No. 4707 – reformatting of the policy but still focusing on the two approaches regarding academic progress (quantitative and qualitative). V-Chair moved to adopt. Seconded by Regent Roger.
   BP No. 4708 – "Repeated Courses" moved to BP No. 4407 as one of the elements used by FAO to review procedures. **PASSED**.

d. Review of **Chapter 5 (Fiscal Affairs) Policies**
   i. **Board Policy No. 5601** – Establishment of Accountability and Movement of Assets
   ii. **Board Policy No. 5604** – Use of Instructional Equipment

   Note: BP No. 5601 – completely struck out the language and replaced it for relevancy and to make sure that the College can track the movement of its assets. V-Chair moved to adopt. Seconded by Regent Roger. **PASSED**.
   BP No. 5604 – this policy gives away the use of the College's equipment contradicting the Facilities Fee policy (BP No. 7003). Therefore, this language was struck out to align with the Facilities Fee policy. This will allow the College to collect recovery costs for the use of College property. **PASSED**.

e. Review of **Chapter 6 (Human Resources) Policies**
   i. **Board Policy No. 6012** – Social Security

ii. **Board Policy No. 6013** – Holidays
Note: BP No. 6012 – amendment to include "FSM" to specify which benefit and from where the benefit is coming from. Regent Roger moved to adopt. Seconded by the V-Chair. **PASSED**.
BP No. 6013 – Amendment: change "proceeding" to "preceding". V-Chair moved to adopt. Seconded by Regent Roger.

f. Review of **Chapter 7 (Facilities & Maintenance) Policies**
i. **Board Policy No. 7008** – COM-FSM Campus Posting
Note: This policy is amended to include a provision for Kosrae Campus. The campus is proposing $150/student for transportation services to be provided by the College. If the other sister campuses would like to adopt this service in the future, the policy will also be amended to include a campus' provision for said service. **PASSED**.

g. Review of **Chapter 8 (Information Technology) Policies**
i. **Board Policy No. 8900** – Cybersecurity
Note: (Presented by ITC Dhiraj.) Brand new policy to take into consideration the many IT updates done at the College, especially protection against cyber attacks and violations. **PASSED**.

11. Miscellaneous
a. New BOR 5-year Master Planning Calendar (2027-32)
Note: Presented by the VPEMSS. Meant to put order in the policy review process.
b. **Board Policy No. 5602** – Depreciation
i. The Policy was last reviewed in 2014. A revised version will be drafted by the VPIS and Chuuk Campus A/g Dean for presentation at the next Board meeting.
Note: Acknowledged by the Board. It will be included on the agenda at the next meeting.
C. Recommendation for Matured CDs
Note: SLT proposed urgent/emergency needs at the College to the Board. Due to these needs, the SLT seeks the Board's advice on the recommendation for the Board to invest the CDs in a special account to support these needs and not for operations. Raymond James to draw down the funds, if approved. The Board directed the VPIS, via the President, to put stipulations in the procedures on the use of this fund. Regent Roger moved to adopt. Seconded by the V-Chair. **PASSED**.
d. Internal Audit Function – Contractual Services and Funding Support
Note: Presented by the VPIS. The Board approved of this position in 2024 depending on the availability of funds. Because this was directed by the Board, VPIS is seeking the Board's approval of $10,000 out of their carried over funds of $40,000. V-Chair moved to adopt. Seconded by Regent Roger. Questions by the latter will be discussed at the Executive Session.

12. Next Meeting: **Late August, early September in Chuuk.**
13. Executive Session (Refer to agenda shared on 9 June)
14. Adjournment
15. **Action Items